WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1.   An image input apparatus which can be controlled
by an external control apparatus, comprising:

    request generation means for generating a request
in a predetermined format on the basis of user input;

    sending means for sending the request generated
by said request generation means to the external
control apparatus;

    processing means for executing the request
generated by said request generation means;

    memory for storing correspondence data of a
request type and destination; and

    route determination means for sending the request
generated by said request generation means to one of
said sending means and said processing means with
reference to the data stored in said memory.

2.   The apparatus according to claim 1, further
comprising reception means for receiving a command from
the external control apparatus,

    wherein said processing means executes the
command.

3.   The apparatus according to claim 1, further
comprising update means for updating the destination
stored in said memory.

4.   The apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the
destination is updated on the basis of a command from
the external control apparatus.

5.   The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

detection means for detecting a connection state with the external control apparatus; and

means for, when said detection means detects that said apparatus is not connected to the external control apparatus, controlling said route determination means to ·send the request to said processing means.

6.   The apparatus according to claim 3, further comprising:

detection means for detecting a connection state with the external control apparatus,

wherein when said detection means detects that said apparatus is disconnected from the external control apparatus, said update means initializes the data in said memory.

7.   The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said memory stores said sending means as destination of an image capture request.

8.   The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said memory stores said processing means as destination of an image capture request.

9.   A control method for controlling an image input apparatus which can be controlled by an external control apparatus, and has sending means for sending a request input by a user to the external control apparatus, processing means for executing the request,

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and memory for storing correspondence data of a
request type and destination, comprising:

        a request generation step of generating a request
in a predetermined format on the basis of user input;
5   and

        a route determination step of sending the request
generated in said request generation step to one of the
sending means and the processing means with reference
to the data stored in the memory.

10   10.   The method according to claim 9, further
comprising a reception step of receiving a command from
the external control apparatus, and

        wherein the processing means executes the command.

     11.   The method according to claim 9, further
15   comprising an update step of updating the destination
stored in the memory.

     12.   The method according to claim 11, wherein the
destination is updated on the basis of a command from
the external control apparatus.

20   13.   The method according to claim 9, further
comprising:

        a detection step of detecting a connection state
with the external control apparatus,

        wherein, when it is detected in said detection
25   step that the image input apparatus is not connected to
the external control apparatus, the request is sent to
the processing means in said route determination step.

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14.   The method according to claim 11, further
comprising:

    a detection step of detecting a connection state
with the external control apparatus; and

5   an initialization step of initializing the data
in the memory when it is detected in said detection
step that the image input apparatus is disconnected
from the external control apparatus.

15.   The method according to claim 9, wherein the
10   memory stores the processing means as destination of an
image capture request.

16.   The method according to claim 9, wherein the
memory stores the sending means as destination of an
image capture request.

15   17.   A computer program product comprising a computer
usable medium having computer readable program code
means embodied in said medium for controlling an image
input apparatus which can be controlled by an external
control apparatus, and has sending means for sending a
20   request input by a user to the external control
apparatus, processing means for executing the request,
and memory for storing correspondence data of a request
type and destination, said product including:

    first computer readable program code means for
25   generating a request in a predetermined format on the
basis of user input; and

second computer readable program code means for
sending the request generated in said request
generation step to one of the sending means and the
processing means with reference to the data stored in
5   the memory.